

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1–20. (Cancelled)
21. (New) A process for recycling polylactic acid, comprising:
depolymerizing polylactic acid in the presence of a hydrolase in an organic solvent, thereby producing a re-polymerizable oligomer.
22. (New) The process according to claim 21, wherein the polylactic acid is poly(L-lactic acid).
23. (New) The process according to claim 21, wherein the polylactic acid is poly(DL-lactic acid).
24. (New) The process according to claim 21, wherein the polylactic acid is a polylactic acid copolymer.
25. (New) The process according to claim 21, wherein the hydrolase is lipase.
26. (New) The process according to claim 21, further comprising re-polymerizing the oligomers in the presence of a re-polymerizing hydrolase.
27. (New) The process according to claim 26, wherein the re-polymerizing hydrolase is lipase.
28. (New) The process according to claim 26, wherein one or more monomers or oligomers is used as a comonomer, the one or more monomers or oligomers selected from the group consisting of cyclic lactone monomers or oligomers, cyclic or linear carbonate monomers or oligomers, cyclic or linear ester oligomers, hydroxy acids, and hydroxy acid esters.
29. (New) The process according to claim 21, further comprising re-polymerizing the oligomers in the presence of a polymerization catalyst.

30. (New) The process according to claim 29, wherein one or more monomers or oligomers is used as a comonomer, the one or more monomers or oligomers selected from the group consisting of cyclic lactone monomers or oligomers, and cyclic carbonate monomers or oligomers.

31. (New) A process for recycling polylactic acid, comprising:

depolymerizing polylactic acid in the presence of a hydrolase in a supercritical fluid, thereby producing a re-polymerizable oligomer.

32. (New) The process according to claim 31, wherein the polylactic acid is poly(L-lactic acid).

33. (New) The process according to claim 31, wherein the polylactic acid is poly(DL-lactic acid).

34. (New) The process according to claim 31, wherein the polylactic acid is a polylactic acid copolymer.

35. (New) The process according to claim 31, wherein the hydrolase is lipase.

36. (New) The process according to claim 31, further comprising re-polymerizing the oligomers in the presence of a re-polymerizing hydrolase.

37. (New) The process according to claim 36, wherein the re-polymerizing hydrolase is lipase.

38. (New) The process according to claim 36, wherein one or more monomers or oligomers is used as a comonomer, the one or more monomers or oligomers selected from the group consisting of cyclic lactone monomers or oligomers, cyclic or linear carbonate monomers or oligomers, cyclic or linear ester oligomers, hydroxy acids, and hydroxy acid esters.

39. (New) The process according to claim 31, further comprising re-polymerizing the oligomers in the presence of a polymerization catalyst.

40. (New) The process according to claim 39, wherein one or more monomers or oligomers is used as a comonomer, the one or more monomers or oligomers selected from the group consisting of cyclic lactone monomers or oligomers, and cyclic carbonate monomers or oligomers.